



Architecture in Practice:

Chrome

Reid Holmes

NFP: Security

- ▶ Security: “The protection afforded a system to preserve its **integrity**, **availability**, and **confidentiality** if its resources.”
- ▶ Confidentiality
 - ▶ Preserving the **confidentiality** of information means preventing unauthorized parties from accessing the information or perhaps even being aware of the existence of the information. I.e., secrecy.
- ▶ Integrity
 - ▶ Maintaining the **integrity** of information means that only authorized parties can manipulate the information and do so only in authorized ways.
- ▶ Availability
 - ▶ Resources are **available** if they are accessible by authorized parties on all appropriate occasions.

Security principles

- ▶ Security is a cross-cutting concern that cannot be retroactively added to a system.
- ▶ Several principles exist for reasoning about design decisions from a security perspective:
 - ▶ Least privilege
 - ▶ Fail-safe defaults
 - ▶ Economy of mechanism
 - ▶ Open design
 - ▶ Separation of privilege
 - ▶ Least common mechanism
 - ▶ Psychological acceptability
 - ▶ Defense in depth

Chrome

- ▶ Online content is insecure and can compromise:
 - ▶ Confidentiality: Leak user data
 - ▶ Integrity: Read/write arbitrary data on disk
 - ▶ Availability: Crash host application and/or OS

Chrome relies on **least privilege**, **separation of privilege**, and **defense in depth** to securely parse and render insecure content.

Chrome architecture

